

The Brattleboro Daily Reformer

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BRATTLEBORO, VERMONT, THURSDAY EVENING, JULY 29, 1915.

TWO CENTS.

BECKER CALMLY AWAITING DEATH

His Wife to Make Final Plea to Gov. Whitman This Afternoon, But Latter Believes Prisoner Guilty—Preparations Completed for Execution at 5.45 A. M. Tomorrow

ALBANY, N. Y., July 29.—Mrs. Charles Becker arrived here this morning to make a final plea to Gov. Whitman for her husband's life. She was accompanied by John B. Johnson of Becker's counsel. Mrs. Becker did not learn until after her arrival of the governor's departure from the city. After conferring with Mrs. Becker and Johnson, Secretary Orr put in a long distance call for Gov. Whitman. He intends asking him to meet Mrs. Becker at Fishkill, where the governor expects to be at 1 o'clock.

OSSENING, N. Y., July 29.—Charles Becker, former New York police lieutenant, condemned to die tomorrow for instigating the murder of Herman Rosenthal, is reported to be bearing up well today under the realization that virtually all hope of his escaping the electric chair has passed.

Becker arose at 7 o'clock today. After breakfast he was taken from his cell, given a bath and new suit of underwear. When he returned to his cell he found that all of his clothing, personal belongings and even the few furnishings of his cell, had been removed. On a new cot lay a new black suit, white shirt, and black tie.

In the absence of Thomas Mott Osborne, warden of Sing Sing, who is opposed to capital punishment, Deputy Warden Johnson will have charge of the execution of Becker and of Samuel Haynes, a negro, who will probably be electrocuted a few minutes before Becker.

NEW YORK, July 29.—Final preparations for the execution at Sing Sing tomorrow of Charles Becker were begun at the prison today following the announcement of Justice Ford's decision denying Becker a third trial. The execution is set for 5.45 a. m. One of Becker's attorneys said there would be a meeting of the prisoner's counsel early today to consider Justice Ford's ruling and decide whether they could do anything further to save Becker from the chair.

NEW YORK, July 29.—Justice John Ford of the supreme court last night denied a new trial to Charles Becker, the former police lieutenant, under sentence of death for instigating the murder of Herman Rosenthal, the gambler. This decision means that Becker must be electrocuted tomorrow. Justice Ford announced his decision at 10 o'clock in his chambers, where he had labored several days and nights on the briefs submitted for and against the application for a new trial. He called the waiting newspaper men into his chambers and, as his secretary handed them copies of his typewritten decision, the justice said:

"I have denied the motion for a new trial. And this is my birthday. I'm 53 today. It's a pretty tough way to spend your birthday, isn't it?" The judge added that he had planned to spend the day with his wife and daughter. "I virtually arrived at my decision Tuesday night," said Justice Ford, "but spent many hours since then phrasing and arranging the opinion."

ALBANY, N. Y., July 29.—Governor Whitman, when informed last night that Justice Ford had denied a new trial to Becker, said:

"Justice Ford did the only thing he could do. The evidence against him was

conclusive. I never had any doubt of Becker's guilt. If I had any now, I would pardon Becker."

Governor Whitman has been receiving letters from various parts of the state urging clemency for Becker. Many of these letters have been from women who have advanced the purity of Becker's home life as evidence that he could not be bad. They have pleaded with the governor on that ground to intervene on behalf of the condemned man.

On first receiving the news of the court's action, the governor refused to talk, but later he dictated the foregoing brief statement. Immediately thereafter he retired and said that he would have nothing more to say.

OSSENING, N. Y., July 29.—"There is no justice here," said Becker last night to Father Cashion, Catholic chaplain of Sing Sing prison, after he had learned that his application for a new trial had been denied. "I am confident, however, that I will get it in the next world. I know that the truth will come out, and that the world will know that Becker told the truth, and is not the murderer that he is accused of being."

"I do not fear death, but I feel the stigma which death will attach to the name Becker, and I fear the distress and sorrow that it will cause my wife."

When first informed of Justice Ford's decision by Deputy Warden Johnson of Sing Sing, Becker made no display of emotion except the tightening of the hand which clasped that of the deputy warden. "Denied," he repeated. And then, after a moment, "Well, I'll die like a man, anyhow."

BRITISH LABOR SHIRKS SAYS LLOYD GEORGE

Minister Tells House of Commons Work on Munitions Is Far Behind—Ten New Arsenals.

LONDON, July 29.—The house of commons last night decided to adjourn from today until Sept. 14, but before this decision was reached the members heard Minister of Munitions Lloyd George make the following charges:

The munition contractors are behind time in their contracts. Labor is not keeping to its agreement to suspend trade union rules during the emergency.

Fortifical of the munition making machinery of England is not employed full time and only one-fifth of it is working at night.

There cannot be an increased output from old works for weeks and perhaps months.

From the other side of the ledger were entered the following credits:

That the government is shortly to establish ten new national arsenals in addition to the 16 co-operative factories already under government control.

Forty thousand volunteer workmen are at work and 100,000 are to be utilized, among these being skilled workmen who are to be brought back from the front.

A substantial increase in the output of shells and other munitions from new establishments will largely be made within a few weeks.

CONSULATE THREATENED.

Guard Landed from U. S. Cruiser to Protect French Officials.

WASHINGTON, July 29.—The French consulate at Cape Haitien, Haiti, is menaced by revolutionists and a guard from the United States auxiliary cruiser Eagle has been landed to protect it. This information was cabled early today to the state department by American Consul Livingston.

AT THE CENTRE CHURCH.

Friday at 7.30, service of praise and prayer, Topic, Christian Freedom from Worldliness. 1 John 2:1-17. Worldliness and Materialism, special dangers of the age. How can we escape these temptations? The powers of a stalwart faith. The pastor will lead.

BURDEN OF THE NATIONS

Dr. Green Gives Remarkable Address in Chautauqua Tent

TWO BROAD OCEANS PROTECT AMERICA

No Need for Fear of Invasion by Foreign Country—Argument Against Spending Huge Sums for Military Equipment—Singing by Opera Co.

Notwithstanding the rain, about 1,000 persons assembled in the Chautauqua tent last evening, and there was no lack of enthusiasm and enjoyment. Although the McKinnic Operatic company, which furnished the first part of the evening's program, was handicapped by the rain accompanied, when Dr. Thomas E. Green, vice president of the American Peace society, was introduced the rain ceased and his remarkable address was easily heard.

During the intermission further opportunity was given to subscribers for Chautauqua tickets for 1916 and Supt. Goldsmith announced that the total number of 82 course tickets pledged had reached 300, or 83 more than were subscribed for Tuesday evening.

The afternoon program opened with one of the series lectures by Supt. Goldsmith, whose subject was The News About the Church.

The concert at 8.15 by the McKinnic Operatic company proved a long and generous one, including quartets, duets, solos, and ensembles. The company is composed of Bert P. McKinnic, baritone; Tekla Form McKinnic, soprano; Rose Heidenreich Grub, contralto; J. Allen Grub, tenor; and Margaret Day, pianist and accompanist.

In the evening the second part of the concert, the second act from the opera Martha, was sung in costume. Much of this was during the heaviest of the down-pour, and the noise of the falling rain made it difficult for the singers to make themselves heard far from the front seats, but the applause at the conclusion convinced them that the audience appreciated their efforts even if the full beauty of the work was lost at times. As a response to an encore after the operatic selection the quartet from Rigoletto was given.

Dr. Green received a very enthusiastic welcome and after expressing his pleasure at being in Brattleboro once more he plunged immediately into his lecture and for over an hour and a half he held the close attention of his audience.

Dr. Green gave some statistics from Europe which he had lately received from personal friends whose information and figures he considers entirely reliable, and which he said had not been published. According to these figures there were in the armies of the European field of war on July 1, 21,770,000 armed men. Of these Germany had eight and a half millions in the field, Russia, about six millions more, France five millions, and the other nations involved, the rest. The naval strength of the Teutonic nations was computed by a German authority at 656 fighting ships, while the allies had 1,440 such ships. Germany's whole number of submarines was given as 90, while those of the allies numbered 149. Dr. Green further figured that up to date the war has cost 19 billions 800 millions of dollars, and is costing 47 millions a day. Adding property destroyed, etc., the total cost of the war one year from its beginning will be 80 billions of dollars. The total assets of the nations involved is not more than 300 billions, so that by Aug. 1 Europe will have taken more than 25 per cent of all she has and destroyed it. A French society estimates the casualties thus far have been 8,475,000 in killed, wounded and missing.

Dr. Green spoke regretfully of the very thin veneer which is found to have covered all our boasted twentieth century civilization. The code duello among individuals has been abolished in civilized countries, but not among nations. Yet this war came with a certainty like that of the multiplication table. "Europe exploded because Europe was loaded," he said. For years the nations had spent 25 per cent of their incomes preparing for war; and the logical and only result was war. Treaties are valueless in preventing war. The triple alliance, one of the most perfect ever drawn, was shattered in no time. The triple entente, a gentlemen's agreement, stands because it is for the interest of the allies that it should. Little Belgium, the best protected nation imaginable, so far as treaties went, and the best armed and fortified in Europe, with the most up-to-date and ably officered army, was crushed simply and solely because she stood in the path from Berlin to Paris and refused to violate her pledge of neutrality and allow the Germans to march through her territory. Had Belgium been located 50 miles to one side she would not have been invaded.

Dr. Green developed strongly the arguments that are made for preparations on a large scale for war in this country, picturing our little army of less than 100,000 men, widely scattered, and our excellent navy, so small as to be of no practical account. However true these facts may be, Dr. Green scouted the idea that they prove it necessary or advisable for this nation to begin expending vast sums for armaments and trained men to withstand a foreign attack. The day of little armies crossing the ocean and being effective is long since past, if it ever existed.

Figures were given suggesting what it would cost to get the fighting ships, transports and accessories to send a fair sized modern army to America. The figures Dr.

ADVANCE HAS BEEN HALTED

Germans Have Made No Progress Toward Warsaw Since Last Tuesday

CONTINUE EFFORTS TO CROSS THE NAREW

There Has Been Spirited Fighting on the Right Bank and on the Left the German Attacks Were Repulsed—Italians Successful.

LONDON, July 29.—The German endeavor to capture Warsaw, pushed forward with notable energy for a period covering more than two weeks, has not made any material progress since last Tuesday, according to the reports coming from Petrograd, London and Berlin.

On the contrary the Russian authorities in their latest official announcement reiterated their claims that the German advance movement in the direction of the Polish capital has been checked and they specify when and where.

The Berlin announcements do not dispute Petrograd.

Going into details the latest Russian report recites the favorable outcome to the advance guard engagements in Courland and says the Germans are continuing their efforts to cross the Narew river at a point north of Warsaw.

The line on the left bank of the Narew has been spirited fighting, but remains unchanged and to the right of the Narew German attacks have been repulsed.

The French official statement of today reports minor activity but no fighting of any importance, while the latest Italian communication says the progress of the Italian forces on the Carso plateau has been satisfactory and that they have been successful in minor encounters.

Minister of Munitions Lloyd George, addressing a meeting of coal operators in London today, laid particular emphasis upon the need of coal for the successful conduct of the war. He declared that, events in the east meant that a larger share than ever of the burden of the struggle was to be turned on the shoulders of Great Britain and that the country must pay the price of victory if it meant to be victorious.

The German official report of today says there has been no change in the situation north of the Niemen river, that German troops have taken nearly 3,000 prisoners near Suwalki and that the Russian attacks south of the river Narew resulted in failure and heavy losses to the Germans.

News despatches from Petrograd indicate that the newspapers of the Russian capital are preparing the people for the receipt of unfavorable news of the campaign in Poland.

The German imperial chancellor, who returned to the capital yesterday from army headquarters, where he saw Emperor William, is in conference today with James W. Gerard, the American ambassador.

600 MACHINISTS LEFT THEIR WORK

Employees of Becker Milling Machine Co. Quit When Increase in Wages Was Refused.

BOSTON, July 29.—Over 600 machinists and other employees struck today at the plant of the Becker Milling Machine company in the Hyde Park section of the city because of the refusal of the company to grant their demands of increased wages of approximately 20 per cent and the reinstatement of discharged workmen.

The plant has been operating night and day recently, filling orders for machines used in the preparation of war material.

VERNON.

A dance will be held in Grange hall tonight. Ice cream and cake will be served.

Green claimed were prohibitive; the time required to fit out such an expedition would be at least 10 years and such preparations could not be kept secret, so there would be ample time to prepare a defense. God has given us this great garden of the earth and has thrown around it vast waters of the oceans, thus keeping it, through His power, for a greater destiny. To fulfill that destiny our objective must be the development of a better and better men and women enthused and embodied by the great American ideal of liberty, justice and freedom.

This is the last day of the Chautauqua. The afternoon program began at 2.30 with a pageant of Average Town, and was followed by a concert by the Strollers made quartet and a lecture by Mrs. LaSalle Corbell Pickett on Friends of Yesterday. This evening, the Strollers quartet will give another concert and the College Players will present Shakespeare's Twelfth Night.

RETREAT MAY NOT SETTLE

Intended to Pay Small Sum Until Overdrawn Statement Appeared

WOMAN CLAIMED SHE WAS ABUSED

Investigation Satisfied Officials That There Was No Merit in Claim—Patient Undertook to Throw Nurse Out of Her Room.

A statement was made in North Adams, Mass., yesterday and published in afternoon papers and in morning papers today relative to a proposal by a woman to bring a suit for \$50,000 against the Brattleboro Retreat for the insane, in which she formerly was a patient, alleging abusive treatment. The story, on its face, was a fabrication and invention so far as the principal details were concerned, and the facts as obtained by The Reformer from Judge James M. Tyler, chairman of the board of trustees, and Rev. E. Q. S. Osgood, another member of the board, the veracity of whom needs no bolstering up, confirm that view. The story as it appeared in the North Adams correspondence in the Springfield Republican was as follows:

"Mrs. Hattie Guilford of Main street, wife of Earl E. Guilford, stated yesterday that she is contemplating bringing an action of tort for \$50,000 against the Brattleboro Retreat at Brattleboro, Vt., of which she was an inmate for 2½ years, which she is being represented by Attorney Joseph Jones of Rutland, Vt., and that she had a Pinkerton detective at the institution for three weeks to secure evidence of the manner in which inmates there are treated."

"Mrs. Guilford left the retreat about two years ago. She said yesterday that her attorney recently talked with herself and her husband and said that the Brattleboro institution wished to make a settlement without having any suit brought, and that her attorney has advised her to agree to a settlement. She is now considering the proposition and said that she would probably accept the offer, although she would like to have the matter aired in court. Among other things, Mrs. Guilford alleged that her body is a mass of scars from the treatment she received, that her jaw was broken and that a number of her teeth were knocked in. She showed a scar on the side of her head where she claimed she was hit with an iron pipe and scars on her arms which she said were caused by carbolic acid being poured on her."

After reading the published story The Reformer called it to the attention of Judge Tyler and Rev. Mr. Osgood, and they said that so far as the detective, the broken teeth, the iron pipe and the carbolic acid were concerned they had never heard of those things before in connection with the case, and they stated what the incident was, upon which the story was based.

They said that Mrs. Guilford was over six feet tall, about six feet and two inches, and that the nurse at the Retreat whom Mrs. Guilford claims abused her was a girl under the average height, who scarcely would reach to Mrs. Guilford's shoulders. Mrs. Guilford ordinarily was very agreeable and was thought well of by the attendants and nurses.

One morning Mrs. Guilford appeared very nervous and excitable in her room and when the nurse went in to do her morning's work Mrs. Guilford ordered her out. Naturally the nurse did not go, whereupon Mrs. Guilford seized her with the evident purpose of throwing her out, but the nurse, armed with nothing but her bare hands, succeeded in getting her on to the bed and quieted down.

Mrs. Guilford remained at the institution several weeks after that and nothing particular was thought of the occurrence. The woman later went to her home, which was then in Pownall, and a nurse went with her and remained with her a few weeks.

Nearly a year after that a lawyer made a claim against the Retreat for damages in behalf of Mrs. Guilford, saying that in the scuffle with the nurse her jaw was injured. That was the first that the trustees had heard of any such claim. Dr. S. E. Lawton, superintendent of the Retreat, had an investigation made, and the trustees also thoroughly investigated the matter and had all the evidence of witnesses typewritten.

Their unanimous conclusion was that no injury was inflicted and that the nurse did no more on the occasion of the scuffle than ordinary prudence demanded for the defense of her person and no more than anybody would have done.

The trustees decided, however, that rather than be subjected to a lawsuit, with its consequent bother, publicity and expense, they would pay Mrs. Guilford a sum of money, and with her counsel they arranged terms of settlement which were satisfactory to both sides, the amount, according to the trustees, being a small sum.

"But," said Judge Tyler today, "now that this statement has come out I don't know as we shall pay it."

Successful merchants advertise to get business—then keep on advertising to keep it.

SIX MEN BLAMED FOR LOSS OF LIFE

Coroner's Jury Recommends That They Be Indicted for Manslaughter in Connection with the Eastland Disaster—Federal Grand Jury to Inquire as to Crew's Competency

CHICAGO, Ill., July 29.—Governmental efforts to place the responsibility for the capsizing of the steamship Eastland in the Chicago river Saturday got under way today with the convening of the federal grand jury and the opening of the investigation by the steamboat inspection service under the direction of Secretary of Commerce Redfield.

Plans for both of these inquiries were completed at conferences which lasted nearly all night.

United States District Attorney Cline expects that among the first witnesses before the grand jury will be William H. Hull, general manager of the company owning the Eastland. One of the points to be laid before the grand jury is the competency of the crew of the Eastland, reports of investigators indicating that many members of the crew were unfamiliar with nautical work.

Evidence supporting the charge of negligence also will be presented to the grand jury.

The county grand jury, which was adjourned yesterday following a conference between Secretary Redfield and State Attorney Hoyne, was reconvened today and will report to the coroner's jury recommending that six persons be held as liable for it.

A charge of manslaughter was recommended by the coroner's jury early today against William H. Hull, general manager of the company owning the Eastland; Harry Petersen, captain, and Joseph N. Erickson, chief engineer of the Eastland; Walter K. Greenbaum, general manager of the Indiana Transportation company, which chartered the Eastland; and Robert Reid and Charles C. Eckliffe, steamboat inspectors at Grand Haven, Mich.

An investigation of the circumstances of the construction of the boat was recommended "to ascertain if there can be found legal methods by which those responsible for its defect in construction can be held accountable."

State Attorney Hoyne will decide how far the county grand jury can proceed in view of Secretary Redfield's representation yesterday that the state lacks jurisdiction over federal inspectors located in another state.

Examination of witnesses in the inquiry of the United States department of commerce into the cause of the Eastland disaster began here today under personal supervision of Secretary Redfield.

Witnesses, including the officers and crew of the steamer, and a long list of survivors were summoned to the federal building to tell their version of the catastrophe.

While this inquiry was progressing United States District Attorney Cline prepared to empanel a federal grand jury to investigate the question of criminal responsibility for the accident.

In the state attorney's office efforts were directed to determine the extent of the jurisdiction of the state grand jury over the persons held by coroner's jury for grand jury action.

Doubt was expressed over the jurisdiction of the state over federal officials.

Funeral services for the last of the identified dead were held today. All but four of the 832 bodies recovered have been identified.

In addition to the victims whose bodies have been recovered 500 persons are still listed as missing.

MORE PLEDGES FOR 1916 CHAUTAUQUA

Action Must Be Taken at Once If the Entertainments Are to Come Here Again.

Editor of The Reformer: Dear Sir:—As this is the last day of Brattleboro's first Chautauqua week, the executive committee of the local organization thinks a statement from them may be of interest to those who would like to see Chautauqua come again. From our experience this year we know that it is absolutely necessary for the people who want Chautauqua for 1916 to show their interest by signing pledges to buy tickets. At the present time there are over 400 pledges for season tickets in the hands of the committee. If Chautauqua is to come here again the local committee feel that they must have pledges for at least 500 tickets. Then we expect it will be an easy matter to get at least 50 voluntary guarantors to sign the contract for 1916.

Now, what is to be done? Those who have not yet pledged for tickets should do so at once and to bring this about, those who have already signed must use their influence to get their friends and neighbors to do likewise.

The contract for guarantors will be left with the secretary of the board of trade at his office in the town hall and pledge cards for tickets may also be turned in at the same place.

For the executive committee, E. B. SMITH, Chairman.

AMERICAN FACES SERIOUS CHARGES

Former Clerk of American Consulate Charged with Helping Britisher Get Passports.

WASHINGTON, July 29.—Harry L. Wilson of Portland, Oregon, recently a clerk in the American consulate at Berlin and now under arrest there, faces charges that are considered extremely serious by state department officials at Washington. Wilson ostensibly was detained at the Danish border for attempting to leave Germany without a passport. The real complaint against him, however, according to information forwarded to Washington, is that he aided a British subject in obtaining a passport, asserting that he knew the applicant to be an American citizen. Ambassador Gerard reported the case about two weeks ago. Whether Wilson had left Berlin before that time has not been revealed.

Unlike diplomatic representatives, consular agents are extended no immunities or exemptions from prosecution for offenses committed in another country. If Wilson's offense should be proved as charged, it would constitute a treasonable act. The German government is under no obligation to grant leniency in such cases, but could do so upon a request from this government. Secretary Lansing would not discuss the case yesterday, further than to say an investigation was being made. Wilson formerly was a clerk to the military affairs committee of the United States Senate.

Wilson obtained an appointment as clerk in the American consulate at Berlin through friends at Portland, Oregon, who desired to help him give his daughter, Beatrice, a musical education in Berlin. Wilson and his daughter went to Germany five years ago. Wilson had lived in Portland only a short time before going to Germany. He was born in Washington, D. C. He is 45 years old.

FACE STARVATION IN MEXICO CITY

Carranza and Zapata Urged to Allow Provisions to Go Through to the Capital.

WASHINGTON, July 29.—So serious has the food shortage become in Mexico City that the United States will make immediate representation to Carranza and Zapata urging that provisions be permitted to go through to the starving people in the capital. Stories of alarming conditions have reached the state department under date of July 25.

WIDOW BRINGS SUIT.

Mrs. Raymond Claims Negligence Caused Her Husband's Death.

RUTLAND, July 29.—A negligence case involving \$20,000 has been brought in Rutland county court by Salina M. Raymond as administratrix of the estate of her husband, Frederick Raymond, who was killed, it is claimed by a live wire on the evening of January 12 last, while he and Mrs. Raymond were on their way to attend a theater.

The case is brought by Lawrence, Lawrence & Stafford, the defendant being the Rutland Railway, Light and Power company.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond were walking up State street about 7 o'clock in the evening when he came in contact with an electric wire which fed an arc light in front of the Armando Costa store. He died within a few moments.

There is some dispute as to how the wire came to be dangling, the plaintiff claiming the lamp fell from some imperfect attachments on the pole, while the defense claimed at a hearing before the public service commission that Mr. Raymond stopped to fix the light, which was not burning. The latter story is denied by Mrs. Raymond.

THE WEATHER.

Partly Cloudy Tonight and Friday, Probably with Showers.

WASHINGTON, July 29.—The weather forecast: Partly cloudy tonight and Friday with probable thunder showers. Not much change in temperature. Light to moderate south winds.

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